

we could, within a fairly brief period of time, have a vote on it and move on to another amendment from the Republican side, thereby sort of catching up from yesterday.

I mention also that we were supposed to start at noon yesterday, but we didn't start until 1. I don't know whose decision that was. That is not important. We can catch up this morning. We met this morning and we are getting the final details, which we needed to do. This is a very complex, extremely complex issue.

The challenges of a millionaire declaring his or her candidacy in Wyoming are significantly different from doing that in the State of California. We tried to accommodate it and, frankly, we have. Those issues were still unresolved last night when the vote was attempted, and all of us were confident that we could work out the differences, bring up an agreement, which will be brought up in the name of Senator DOMENICI and Senator DEWINE and Senator DURBIN, and we can have a relatively brief period of debate and vote on it and then move to another amendment by Senator MCCONNELL, or whoever he designates.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, let me say to Senator MCCAIN—and then I will yield to Senator REID—I appreciate the fact that something has been worked out which appears to be fair to all sides. And since we already debated it for a time yesterday, it won't be necessary to rehash all of that. Maybe we can make up for some of the lost time.

The clear understanding, when the Senator from Arizona and I discussed this issue, was that we would try to keep it on a steady schedule and get amendments offered and voted on every 3 hours, or less if possible.

I yield to Senator REID.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we are hopeful that the first vote is not indicative of what the future is going to hold. I hope that will be the downside of the work on this important piece of legislation. I think yesterday was well spent. There were relatively very few quorum calls, maybe just for brief moments, and I think we were able to accomplish a lot last night and this morning. I also say that during this next day or two, there are a number of Members who wish to give statements about the bill itself. They can do this during the time these amendments are pending. Some of them want to take the full 3 hours. I have already told Senator MCCAIN that I am not too certain that we need to alternate. We don't have many amendments over here. So I publicly advise those on the other side of the aisle who want to offer amendments, they should get them ready because we are not going to have a lot to offer.

Mr. LOTT. If I may respond to the last suggestion, that would be fine. However, we want to make sure that, if we don't alternate, at the end we don't have amendments show up that would be offered, one behind the other, on the

other side. I know that is not the Senator's intention. That is one of the reasons why we alternate, so that one side or the other won't have a block of amendments at the end of the process.

Mr. REID. I appreciate the Senator yielding. There are three Republican amendments. There would be one Democratic amendment, and we would go back to the Republican side. That is how we should do it.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CHAFFEE). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN REFORM ACT OF 2001

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 27, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 27) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide bipartisan campaign reform.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Democratic leader, or his designee, is recognized to offer an amendment.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding that the amendment Senator DOMENICI is going to offer is not yet ready, but we want to start talking about it, the procedure being at such time the amendment comes from legislative drafting, Senator DURBIN will be recognized when the Chair feels that is appropriate. He will yield at that time to Senator DOMENICI, who will offer an amendment on his behalf, and whoever else wants to be on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask the Senator from Nevada if he agrees that we ought to begin the 3-hour time limit.

Mr. REID. I agree.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent, even though the amendment has not yet been laid down, since we are going to be discussing it, that the 3-hour time limit begin with this discussion. We understand most of that time may be yielded back, but at least this will begin the time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I believe the agreement of the Senate as we adjourned yesterday was that the Democratic side, this Senator in particular, would be offering an amendment. I am prepared very shortly to yield to the Senator from New Mexico and the Senator from Ohio and to acknowledge their leadership on this issue. We are addressing probably one of the most complicated problems we face, a Supreme Court decision in *Buckley v. Valeo* which said that a person who decides to run for office and is personally wealthy cannot be limited in the amount of personal wealth they spend in order to obtain this office.

Meanwhile, other candidates who are not personally wealthy face all sorts of limitations on how much money they can raise from individuals, how much they can raise in a given period of time, how much they can raise from political action committees.

The effort in which I have joined Senator DOMENICI and Senator DEWINE is a response to that, I hope a reasonable response to that, which says we know the day will come when wealthy people will run for office, but we also want to say if you are not wealthy, you should have a chance to compete and to deliver your message to the voters and to appeal to them for support.

We have come up with a proposal which Senator DOMENICI and Senator DEWINE will describe in detail. We were having conversations on the floor, up to the beginning of this speech, about aspects of this matter which we hope to address. If we cannot address it particularly in the language of this amendment, we will acknowledge what we consider to be some of the questions that will be raised and try to address it later in debate. We have been in conversation with Senator MCCAIN and Senator FEINGOLD. They are familiar with what we are doing. I do not purport to suggest they support it. They can speak for themselves. We believe this is a responsible way to address a serious problem we face in political campaigns.

If the Senator from New Mexico is prepared, at this point I yield to him with the understanding that when the amendment arrives, the Senator from New Mexico, Mr. DOMENICI, and Senator DEWINE, and I will join as cosponsors with others.

I yield to the Senator from New Mexico.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. I say to the Senator from Illinois, I thank the Senator for his cooperation and help. Obviously, the Senator came on board with the idea encapsulated in the Domenici amendment yesterday, and as we progressed through it, it appeared that a number of Senators wanted some changes. So we set about yesterday evening—and well into the evening—to try to arrive at changes necessary to accommodate a wide variety of Senators and still make it effective.